(a) whether Government are aware that norms stipulated by it to direct and World Bank funded highway construction projects are discriminatory;

(b) whether it is also a fact that pre-qualification requirements for these projects run counter to the policy guidelines formulated by Government and are leading to elimination of Indian companies as led partners; and

(c) if so, whether Government would remove this discrimination to create a level playing field thereby enabling Indian companies to play the role of lead partners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There are different norms for pre-qualification for domestic funded and externally aided projects. The latter projects being generally much larger in size need to have more stringent criteria for experience and resources of contractors. These requirements are neither discriminatory nor contrary to Government policy. Indian companeis can become lead partners in a Joint Venture company provided they satisfy 50% of the specific pre-qualification criteria.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of NW-II

281. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Cutter Suction Dredger and Water Injection Dredgers procured for operating in NW-II;

(b) the details of amount utilised for development of NW-II during the last three years against Sector-wise allocation of Rs. 110 crores during the Ninth Five year Plan; and

(c) the sector-wise achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) So far, no dredger has been procured for operation in NW-II. However, order for procuring one Hydraulic Surface Dredger has already been placed and is expected to be ready for trials by October, 2000.

(b) and (c) 9th Plan approved outlay for IWAI is Rs. 308 crore, of which an outlay of Rs. 84 crore is earmarked for NW-II. A statement indicating scheme-

wise details about utilisation of funds is given in the Statement—I (*See* below). The achivements made during the said period are (i) ensuring navigable channel of 2 meter depth upto Pandu for about 330 days and upto Dibrugarh for about 270 days in a year; (ii) carrying out regular hydrographic surveys, bandalling and channel marking; (iii) providing pilotage service and river notices for safe movement of vessels; (iv) providing floating terminals at Dhubri, Jogighopa, Pandu, Tezpur and Neamati; (v) formulation and implementation of scheme for providing 24th navigation facilities between Dhubri and Guwahati, etc.

Statement

Scheme-wise Details about Utilisation of Funds for Development of NW-II for a Period of 3 Years i.e. 1997-98, 198-99, 1999-2000.

(*Rs. in Crore*)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Expenditure During 1997-98	Expenditure during 1998-99	Expenditure during 1999-2000
	NATIONAL WATERWAY NO -II			
	ON GOING SCHEMES			
1.	Floating Terminal	0.15	0.36	0.16
2.	24th Navigational aids	0.00	0.48	0.24
3	Annual fairway improvement/ conservancy works	2.39	1.19	1.19
4	Terminal Maintenance	0.00	0.81	0.85
5	Acquisition of dredgers & allied vessels (Hydraulic Surface Dredger)	0.00	2.09	0.78
6	Acquisition/Replacement survey vessels	0.00	0.60	0.00
7	Procurement of survey equipments.	0.00	0.26	0.04
	Sub-Total NW-II On Going	2.54	5.79	3.26
	NEW SCHEMES			
8	Pandu Terminal	0.04	0.04	0.35
9	River Training Works	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Acquisition of Dredgers & allied vessels (cutter suction dredger unit)	0.00	0.00	0.00

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Expenditure during 1997-98	Expenditure during 1998-99	Expenditure during 1999-2000
11.	Acquisition of patrol boats	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Pollution Control and ENP	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Organisation	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Procurement of tugs	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Repair and maintenance of vessels	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Floating river stations	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Slipway/Drydocks with marine w/s	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Check posts at Karimganj, Dhubri & Namkhana	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Sub-Total NW-II. New	0.04	0.04	0.35
	TOTAL NW-II	2.58	5.83	3.61

Expansion of ITDC Hotels

†282. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) have any proposal to expand its chain of Hotels;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to sell-off some loss making hotels of ITDC;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the names of such Hotels of ITDC, which have utilised 90 percent of their total capacity during the last two years; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government to develop ITDC Hotels in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) ITDC's Annual Plan (2000-2001) does not envisage any new scheme

†Origional notice of the question was received in Hindi.